

House File 2171 - Introduced

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A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to child sexual abuse and child sexual assault
2 awareness and prevention.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 256.9, subsection 46, paragraph a, Code
2 2024, is amended to read as follows:

3 a. Develop and make available to school districts, examples
4 of age-appropriate and research-based materials and lists
5 of resources which parents may use to teach their children
6 to recognize unwanted physical and verbal sexual advances,
7 to not make unwanted physical and verbal sexual advances,
8 to effectively reject unwanted sexual advances, that it is
9 wrong to take advantage of or exploit another person, about
10 the dangers of sexual exploitation by means of the internet
11 including specific strategies to help students protect
12 themselves and their personally identifiable information
13 from such exploitation, and about counseling, medical, and
14 legal resources available to survivors of sexual abuse and
15 sexual assault, including resources for escaping violent
16 relationships. The materials and resources shall cover verbal,
17 physical, and visual sexual harassment, including nonconsensual
18 sexual advances, ~~and nonconsensual physical sexual contact,~~
19 and child sexual abuse and child sexual assault awareness and
20 prevention. In developing the materials and resource list, the
21 director shall consult with entities that shall include but
22 not be limited to the departments of health and human services
23 and public safety, education stakeholders, and parent-teacher
24 organizations. School districts shall provide age-appropriate
25 and research-based materials and a list of available community
26 and internet-based resources to parents at registration and
27 shall also include the age-appropriate and research-based
28 materials and resource list in the student handbook. School
29 districts are encouraged to work with their communities to
30 provide voluntary parent education sessions to provide parents
31 with the skills and appropriate strategies to teach their
32 children as described in [this subsection](#). School districts
33 shall incorporate the age-appropriate and research-based
34 materials into relevant curricula and shall reinforce the
35 importance of preventive measures when reasonable with parents

1 and students.

2 Sec. 2. Section 256.146, Code 2024, is amended by adding the
3 following new subsection:

4 NEW SUBSECTION. 25. Adopt rules pursuant to chapter 17A
5 establishing continuing education requirements for renewal
6 of a license, certificate, authorization, or statement of
7 recognition. Continuing education activities may include
8 participating in or presenting at in-service training programs
9 related to child sexual abuse and child sexual assault
10 awareness and prevention.

11 Sec. 3. Section 279.50, subsections 1, 2, and 3, Code 2024,
12 are amended to read as follows:

13 1. Subject to [section 279.80](#), each school board shall
14 provide instruction in kindergarten, and in prekindergarten
15 if the school board offers a prekindergarten program, which
16 gives attention to experiences relating to life skills and
17 human growth and development as required in [section 256.11](#).
18 The human growth and development instruction shall include
19 instruction related to child sexual abuse and child sexual
20 assault awareness and prevention. School districts shall use
21 research provided in [section 256.9, subsection 46](#), paragraph
22 "b", to evaluate and upgrade their instructional materials and
23 teaching strategies for human growth and development.

24 2. Subject to [section 279.80](#), each school board shall
25 provide age-appropriate and research-based instruction in
26 human growth and development including instruction regarding
27 self-esteem, stress management, interpersonal relationships,
28 and domestic abuse in grades one through six. The human growth
29 and development instruction shall include instruction related
30 to child sexual abuse and child sexual assault awareness and
31 prevention.

32 3. Each school board shall provide age-appropriate and
33 research-based instruction in human growth and development
34 including instruction regarding human sexuality, self-esteem,
35 stress management, interpersonal relationships, domestic

1 abuse, and the prevention and control of disease, including
2 sexually transmitted diseases as required in [section 256.11](#), in
3 grades seven through twelve. The human growth and development
4 instruction shall include instruction related to child sexual
5 abuse and child sexual assault awareness and prevention.

6 Sec. 4. STATE MANDATE FUNDING SPECIFIED. In accordance
7 with section 25B.2, subsection 3, the state cost of requiring
8 compliance with any state mandate included in this Act shall
9 be paid by a school district from state school foundation aid
10 received by the school district under section 257.16. This
11 specification of the payment of the state cost shall be deemed
12 to meet all of the state funding-related requirements of
13 section 25B.2, subsection 3, and no additional state funding
14 shall be necessary for the full implementation of this Act
15 by and enforcement of this Act against all affected school
16 districts.

17 EXPLANATION

18 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
19 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

20 This bill relates to child sexual abuse and child sexual
21 assault awareness and prevention.

22 Current law requires the director of the department of
23 education to develop and make available to school districts
24 examples of age-appropriate and research-based materials. The
25 bill provides that the age-appropriate and research-based
26 materials shall also cover child sexual abuse and child sexual
27 assault awareness and prevention.

28 The bill requires the board of educational examiners to
29 adopt rules that establish continuing education requirements
30 for renewal of a license, certificate, authorization, or
31 statement of recognition. The bill establishes that continuing
32 education activities may include participating in or presenting
33 at in-service training programs related to child sexual abuse
34 and child sexual assault awareness and prevention.

35 The bill requires school districts to provide

1 age-appropriate and research-based instruction related to child
2 sexual abuse and child sexual assault awareness and prevention
3 as part of its human growth and development instruction in
4 kindergarten through grade 12, and in prekindergarten if the
5 school district offers a prekindergarten program.

6 The bill may include a state mandate as defined in Code
7 section 25B.3. The bill requires that the state cost of
8 any state mandate included in the bill be paid by a school
9 district from state school foundation aid received by the
10 school district under Code section 257.16. The specification
11 is deemed to constitute state compliance with any state mandate
12 funding-related requirements of Code section 25B.2. The
13 inclusion of this specification is intended to reinstate the
14 requirement of political subdivisions to comply with any state
15 mandates included in the bill.